

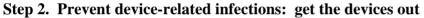
## CDC CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE IN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS

# 12 Steps to Prevent Antimicrobial Resistance Among Surgical Patients

#### **Prevent Infection**

#### **Step 1. Prevent surgical site infections**

- Monitor and maintain normal glycemia
- Maintain normothermia
- Perform proper skin preparation using appropriate antiseptic agent and, when necessary, hair removal techniques
- Think outside the wound to stop surgical site infections



- Use catheters only when essential
- Use proper insertion and catheter-care protocols
- Use drains appropriately
- Remove catheters and drains when they are no longer essential

#### Step 3. Prevent hospital-acquired pneumonia

- Wean from the ventilator when appropriate
- Elevate head of bed to 30°
- Drain circuit/tubing condensate away from patient
- Prevent contamination of respiratory therapy equipment, ventilator circuits and respiratory medications

## **Diagnose and Treat Infection Effectively**

## Step 4. Target the Pathogen

- Target empiric antimicrobial therapy to likely pathogens
- Obtain appropriate cultures
- Target definitive antimicrobial therapy to known pathogens
- Optimize timing, regimen, dose, route, and duration of antimicrobial therapy
- Practice safe source control (e.g. debridement, or open wound as indicated)

## Step 5. Access the Experts

Consult the appropriate expert for complicated infections: surgeons; infectious disease experts; clinical pharmacists





ise antimicrobials

wisely



## CDC CAMPAIGN TO PREVENT ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE IN HEALTHCARE SETTINGS

## **Use Antimicrobials Wisely**

#### Step 6. Start prophylactic antimicrobials promptly

- Give the initial dose within one hour preceding incision
- Use the appropriate antimicrobial and dosing
- Repeat the dose during surgery as needed to maintain blood levels

#### Step 7. Stop prophylactic antimicrobials within 24 hours

- Discontinue use even with catheters or drains still in place

#### Step 8. Use local data

- Know your antibiogram
- Know your formulary
- Know your patient population

#### Step 9. Know when to say "no" to vanco

- Vanco should be used to treat known infections, not for routine prophylaxis
- Treat staphylococcal infection, not contaminants or colonization
- Consider other antimicrobials in treating MRSA

## Step 10. Treat infection, not contamination or colonization

- Use proper antisepsis for drawing blood cultures
- Get at least one peripheral vein blood culture, if possible
- Avoid culturing vascular catheter tips
- Treat bacteremia, not the catheter tip

#### **Prevent transmission**

## Step 11. Contain your contaminant and contagion

- Follow infection control precautions
- Consult infection control teams

## Step 12. Practice Hand Hygiene

- Set an example
- Wash your hands or use an alcohol-based handrub
- Do not operate with open sores on hands
- Do not operate with artificial nails
- Promote good habits for the entire surgical team

The Campaign to Prevent Antimicrobial Resistance in Healthcare Settings is funded by the CDC Foundation with support from Pharmacia Corporation, the Sally S. Potter Endowment Fund, and Premier.



November 2003